

Dear members of the Appropriations Committee,
Magna Wind Inc (electrical apparatus /motor repair) and Total Control Inc (Process and motor control design and integration) have an enormous problems trying to hire skilled people.
Many of our people are 55 years of age and up. WHEN THEY RETIRE WE CANNOT REPLACE THEM. There is no workable system in place in CT for the apprenticeship programs that other states/countries have. What little help we do get is through trade schools and technical colleges. Should the availability of teachers drop in those schools due to budget cuts the state of Connecticut will be condemning its skilled trade driven small and medium businesses to a slow death.

At Magna Wind the last two hires have been from other local electric motor shops who went out of business. At Total Control the last two hires were from local manufacturers who left the state. As both MWI and TCI depend on a local manufacturing base for their incomes (duh) one does not need to be a rocket scientist to see how this ends. If the state of Connecticut seeks to balance its bloated budget by cutting off the life blood of small skill driven businesses it will condemn future generations of its work force without a technical college degree to the unemployment rolls.

I cannot understand how a state that has consistently raised taxes over the last 6 years can still not have enough money to meet the needs of its people and its businesses. The sound of poor leadership in Hartford is deafening

Pete Kulak
President MWi/TCI.